

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 12813 101155 Z

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9957

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 12813

E. O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLAB

SUBJ: ILO - CHAIRMANSHIP OF GOVERNING BODY, 1973-1974

REF: STATE 084573

1. LABATT DISCUSSED SUBJECT MATTER WITH ALEXANDRE PARODI, GOF DELEGATE AND MEMBER OF ILO GB, AND HIS DEPUTY FOR ILO MATTERS, CHARLES BARBEAU, WHO IS PRESENTLY DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION AND POPULATION IN LABOR MINISTRY.

2. BOTH OFFICIALS REPEATED VIEW THAT THEY HAVE EXPRESSED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN LAST THREE YEARS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE ELECTION OF A SOVIET DELEGATE TO GB CHAIRMANSHIP IS BECOMING INEVITABLE. THEY RECOGNIZED THE EXISTENCE OF VALID US DOMESTIC CONSIDERATIONS WHICH CONTINUE MILITATE AGAINST SOVIET OR EE CANDIDACY OF THIS POSITION. THEY FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT AT SOME POINT IN TIME, AND THIS MAY WELL HAVE BEEN REACHED ALREADY, FURTHER EFFORTS TO POSTPONE ONCE AGAIN SUCH ELECTION MAY BECOME COUNTERPRODUCTIVE ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF UNFAVORABLE REACTION FROM UNDER- DEVELOPED WORLD.

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PAGE 02 PARIS 12813 101155 Z

3. FURTHERMORE, FRENCH OFFICIALS SAW AN ELEMENT OF CONTRADICTION BETWEEN CURRENT STATE OF US- USSR RELATIONS AND US CONTINUOUS OP- POSITION UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, THERE ARE GROUNDS FOR RECON- SIDERATION OF US POLICY IN THIS CONNECTION.

4. BARBEAU BROUGHT OUT AN ADDITIONAL POINT, NAMELY, THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR THE WEST IF ELECTION OF USSR CANDIDATE TO GB POSITION TOOK PLACE WHILE GOROSHIN IS STILL AROUND. BARBEAU ARGUED THAT GORGOSHIN HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH ILO FOR MANY YEARS AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO HANDLE GB OFFICE IN LINE WITH TRADITION ESTABLISHED BY LONG LIST OF NON- COMMUNIST GB CHAIRMEN. A NEW USSR DELEGATE MAY TRY TO MAKE GREATER USE OF GB CHAIRMAN' S AUTHORITY UNDER ILO CONSTITUTION AND CAN CREATE PROBLEMS FOR THE WEST.

5. WHILE FOREGOING COMMENTS WERE OFFERED AS " PERSONAL", IT CAN BE ASSUMED THAT IT IS A QUESTION OF TIME BEFORE THEY ARE ADOPTED BY GOF AND BECOME OFFICIAL PROBLEM.

6. COMMENT: WE ARE IMPRESSED BY FACT THAT BARBEAU SHARES FORE- GOING VIEWS. HE IS AS OUTSPOKEN IN EXPRESSING HIS PRO- AMERICAN SENTIMENTS AS HE IS IN ARTICULATING HIS DISTASTE FOR USSR AND EE REGIMES. FURTHERMORE, HE IS CRITICAL OF GOF POLICY TOWARDS SOVIETS WHICH, IN HIS VIEW, LEADS TO UNACCEPTABLE IDEOLOGICAL ACCOMMODATION.

IRWIN

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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